



February 27, 2023

Dr Tamara Mattison  
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Dear Public Safety Committee Members,

I am the owner and Principle Consultant with Generation 2 Generation serving thousands of youth in the Twin Cities for over 20 years. In my day job I am the Assistant Divisional Social Service Director for Salvation Army Northern Division working with families throughout the 10 county Metro Area.

**Restorative justice** is an approach to justice in which one of the responses to a crime is to organize a meeting between the victim and the offender, sometimes with representatives of the wider community. The goal is for them to share their experience of what happened, to discuss who was harmed by the crime and how, and to create a consensus for what the offender can do to repair the harm from the offense. This may include a payment of money given from the offender to the victim, apologies and other amends, and other actions to compensate those affected and to prevent the offender from causing future harm.

**Generation 2 Generation Inc** has been in business since 2004 with a focus to develop, mentor, and lead the next generation of people to collectively impact the world from generation to generation! **Our mission** is to educate, empower, and equip youth and adults in discovering their own innate power as they prepare for success. **Our vision** is that everyone is welcome to claim their seat at the table. **Our goal** is to develop the next generation of young adults to be civically minded, goal-oriented, and culturally responsive to better serve themselves, their families, their community, and the world! Further we will provide participants the opportunity to repair the harm caused by their actions through restorative practices in schools, community, and programming.

Not only is ethnic and racial disproportionately an enormous problem, it gets worse with more system involvement. In Ramsey County where less than 15% of the population is Black, 36% of youth with a single referral to the county attorney between 2010-19 were Black, but 87% with 12 or more referrals were Black.

In collaboration with Dr Raj Sethuraju, community members, and experienced professionals, Generation 2 Generation Inc has assembled a team of professionals who are educated and experienced in the areas of Restorative Practices as a response to juvenile justice, adult criminal justice, and community healing.

More funding from the passing of HF 1712 will provide continued support for families, using restorative circles to establish true accountability by repairing harm and reconciling relationships. It takes a village to support our youth and build capacity with school districts and government agencies.

Respectfully,

Dr. Tamara Mattison

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